

When the American public tunes into C-SPAN, the give and take of congressional debate might make about as much sense as the floor of the New York Stock Exchange just before the closing bell. Fortunately, the House has seasoned experts—truly dedicated public servants—who keep up with the details of floor deliberation and legislation so that Members of Congress are able to cast their votes without confusion.

One of the people most responsible for ensuring that House Republicans are informed about important legislation is Speaker BOEHNER's Floor Assistant, Jay Pierson. Jay's role can perhaps be compared to that of an air traffic controller, closely monitoring the flow of floor debate and shepherding Members of Congress to their appropriate positions. While an air traffic controller may use a radar scope for guidance, Jay relies on his dog-eared copy of Jefferson's Manual of Rules and 34 years of experience.

A graduate of Westmont College in Santa Barbara, and a recipient of a Master's Degree from Long Beach University and a Doctorate from the University of Maryland, Jay arrived in the halls of Congress about the same time as the C-SPAN cameras. Dr. Pierson's congressional career began in 1978 in the office of the General Clerk. He began working in the Republican Cloakroom in 1979 for the office of House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes, R-AZ.

Over three decades he held positions of member of the House Republican Cloakroom, member of the Republican Floor Staff and Floor Assistant to the Speaker. He was Assistant Floor Manager for Speaker Gingrich, Floor Assistant for Speaker Dennis Hastert, and now Floor Assistant for Speaker JOHN BOEHNER.

For the past decade, Jay has been an invaluable resource to me during floor debate and votes and I will always value his counsel and friendship.

Mr. Speaker, as Jay prepares to transition to retirement, I join with my colleagues here in the House in wishing him the very best. Jay's wisdom and expertise will be sorely missed.

REFERRING QUAPAW TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA TRUST CLAIMS TO COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, the purpose of this statement is to clarify the scope of the resolution before us. It states that it encompasses Quapaw tribal and individual claims "other than the legal claims that are pending in the Court of Federal Claims on the date of enactment of this resolution."

A question arises. If one or more of those currently pending legal claims are dismissed by the Court for lack of jurisdiction, would the dismissed claim be considered "pending" for purposes of this resolution?

In my view, the answer is no. Our intention with the reference resolution is to request from the Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims a report containing findings of fact and conclusions of law concerning the nature, ex-

tent, and character of the Indian-trust related claims of the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma and its tribal members for compensation. As the language of the resolution suggests, these claims may be legal or equitable in nature, and exclude only the claims that are already within the jurisdiction of the Court of Federal Claims (including the statute of limitations) and are already pending in the Court of Federal Claims on the date of enactment. If a claim is dismissed as being outside the statute of limitations or for jurisdictional reasons, in my view, it was not pending on the date of enactment.

The intent behind the resolution is to have the Court review and render a final and complete resolution of all such claims—that resolution to occur either in the pending cases under the jurisdiction already granted the Court of Federal Claims by the Indian Tucker Act or else under the terms of H. Res. 668.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT SOUTRA

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2012

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Marine Sergeant William Soutra, Jr in Afghanistan. Sergeant Soutra recently received the Navy Cross, the second highest honor given for valor in combat.

Sergeant Soutra is a resident of Worcester and a 2004 graduate of Worcester Vocational High School, where he played lacrosse, football, and hockey. Sergeant Soutra attended Becker College before joining the Marines in 2005.

Over a two day attack beginning on July 10, 2010, Sergeant Soutra's element leader was mortally wounded by an improvised explosive device. With his unit disoriented, Soutra, alongside his military dog Posha, immediately took charge. Sergeant Soutra, without an interpreter, physically re-positioned each Afghan commando to fire in an accurate manner before repeatedly running through enemy gunfire to lead his 10-man commando unit across 1,100 meters of open terrain, all while "relentlessly" firing his rifle. Additionally, Sergeant Soutra helped carry casualties out of the line of fire while orienting air support from jets and helicopters.

Simply, his actions went beyond the call of duty, saving the lives of Marines, Sailors, and Afghan commandos.

Too often, heroic actions of our military's elite special operations forces, like Sergeant Soutra, go unrecognized. It is simply the nature of their job to take on the most dangerous tasks, with no hope for glory or public acknowledgement.

Sgt. Soutra put his own life on the line without a second thought, not because he expected credit, but because it was the right thing to do to protect his men.

Mr. Speaker, our nation is lucky to have men like Sergeant Soutra serving us. I know that all of my colleagues, constituents, and fellow residents of Worcester will join me in offering our humble gratitude for his actions, and sincere congratulations on his recognition.

HONORING DWIGHT E. RADCLIFF

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Dwight E. Radcliff on the celebration of his retirement and for his outstanding years of service to Pickaway County and the State of Ohio.

It is an honor to congratulate Sheriff Radcliff on this momentous occasion as the longest-serving sheriff in the United States of America. Serving as the Pickaway County Sheriff since 1965, Sheriff Radcliff has been committed to the citizens of Pickaway County by protecting life and property, preventing and solving crime and responding to all requests for assistance.

Following in his father's footsteps, Dwight became the second Radcliff to become the Sheriff of Pickaway County and the family name has held the office for 78 of the last 82 years. Over the past several decades, Radcliff has had both trying and memorable moments—from living in the county jail with his family to apprehending the rarest of criminals. Because of his great dedication and reputation for law enforcement, Pickaway County is often referred to as "Putaway Pickaway" by local and statewide residents.

On November 6, 2012 his son Robert was elected sheriff and will become the third generation of Radcliff's to hold this office. Dwight is married to Betty his wife of 59 years and is the father of three and grandfather to eight grandchildren, and great-grandfather to two great-grandchildren.

Thus, I join the citizens of the 7th Congressional District in congratulating and honoring Sheriff Dwight E. Radcliff for his many years of dedication and exemplary service to Pickaway County and the state of Ohio, and to extend best wishes to him and his family for much success in the future.

THE MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR CLARIFICATION ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Mortgage Originator Clarification Act to clarify the definition of the term mortgage originator in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

I support responsible lending policies and consumer protections throughout the home buying process to provide the best products and transparency for consumers. However, the Dodd-Frank Act was hastily put together and crammed through Congress. Unintended consequences of regulations prescribed in the Dodd-Frank Act, if implemented without specific consideration of manufactured housing, could eliminate housing finance options for families seeking to purchase affordable manufactured homes.

Multiple definitions and standards for mortgage origination, such as those in Section 1401 of Dodd-Frank and the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing (SAFE) Act, are confusing to the manufactured housing industry, consumers interested in buying